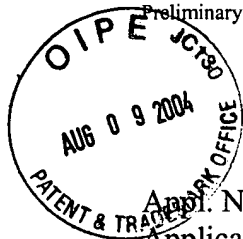


IFW



**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Appl. No. : 10/801,124 Confirmation No. 9174  
Applicant : Forbes  
Filed : March 15, 2004  
For : DROPPED DECK CENTER BEAM RAIL ROAD CAR  
T.C./A.U. : 3617  
Examiner : Unknown

Docket No. : 200405.00038  
Customer No. : 021324

**Commissioner of Patents**  
**P.O. Box 1450**  
**Alexandria, VA 22313-1450**

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Sir:

Please amend the above-identified application as follows:

**Amendments to the Specification** begin on page 2 of this paper.

**Amendments to the Claims** - none

**Amendments to the Drawings** - none

**Remarks** begin on page 4 of this paper.